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with the formation of primary cleavage products, in which case these are elaborated into alcohol and  $\text{CO}_2$ .—C. R. B.

**A new fossil araucarian.**—SINNOTT<sup>16</sup> has described a new genus of araucarian wood from the Cretaceous (?) clays of Scituate, Mass. The structure of *Paracedroxylon scituatense* consists of tracheids and pith rays, the radial pits of the former being circular (not flattened by mutual contact), and the cells of the latter thin-walled and without pits except in the walls adjacent to the tracheids. Groups of thin-walled cells which occur in wounded regions are thought possibly to represent abortive resin canals, and in the bands of wound tissue which occur near wounds large anastomosing mucilage spaces appear which are said to represent somewhat modified traumatic resin canals. The conclusion is that *Paracedroxylon* is another primitive araucarian which is "on the border line between this group and their ancestors, the primitive Abietineae," which "probably left the ascending araucarian line before the appearance of flattened pitting," and whose "traumatic canals were subsequently much reduced from the typical abietineous condition."—J. M. C.

**Oospheres of Sargassum.**—In a short preliminary note, TAHARA<sup>17</sup> announces the periodic liberation of the oospheres of the species of *Sargassum* (about 10 in number) at the Misaki Marine Biological Station of the Tokyo Imperial University, *S. enerve* being the species chiefly under observation. The liberation occurs simultaneously not only in a given individual, but also in all the plants of the locality, proceeding in fortnightly crops on a particular day, at a fixed interval after the highest spring tide, this interval varying in different species. All the oospheres of a single conceptacle are not discharged at one time, but in two or three successive fortnightly crops.—J. M. C.

**Light and protein synthesis.**—ZALESKI, after further experiments,<sup>18</sup> has supported the general view that light promotes the synthesis of proteins only indirectly, because of the relation to the synthesis of carbohydrates. He rejects the researches of LAURENT and of GODLEWSKI as insufficient to show the direct influence of light upon any molecular combination in the proteins.—C. R. B.

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<sup>16</sup> SINNOTT, EDMUND A. W., *Paracedroxylon*, a new type of araucarian wood. *Rhodora* 11:165-173. pls. 80, 81. 1909.

<sup>17</sup> TAHARA, M., On the periodical liberation of the oospheres in *Sargassum*. Preliminary note. *Bot. Mag. Tokyo* 23:151-153. 1909.

<sup>18</sup> ZALESKI, W., Ueber die Rolle des Lichtes bei der Eiweissbildung in den Pflanzen. *Ber. Deutsch. Bot. Gesells.* 27:56-62. 1909.